

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 14U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT
2 MAY 1983

Washington Whispers

Behind President Reagan's address on Central America to a joint session of Congress: The worried President concluded that controversy over covert U.S. operations against the Marxist government of Nicaragua was masking growing danger that the Soviet Union and Cuba will expand their foothold by pulling El Salvador into the Communist orbit.

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How much can the Soviet Union count on military forces of its European allies in an emergency? Latest intelligence reports say Bulgaria and East Germany would be the most loyal; troops of Poland, Romania and Hungary the least dependable.

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